

Hattie Thomas/R7/USEPA/US

To

02/13/2013 04:44 PM

cc

bcc Karl Brooks

Subject OPA Daily Digest 2/13/13

OPA Daily Digest for 2/13/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Mike Johanns (Neb.) – Telephone – 2/8/13: Additional questions on the Omaha Tribe. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) – Letter – 1/29/13: Constituent concerns about fines for RRP Rule violations. Due: 2/12/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Tom Harkin (Iowa) - Telephone – 2/13/13: Requesting an update on the nutrient management strategy. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

State Government Inquiries:

House Environmental and Ag Committee Members (Kan) - Meeting - 2/6/13: Questions on air, water, budget and organizational structure. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Press Inquiries:

KWWL Channel 7, Waterloo, Iowa - Shelley Russell - 2/7/13: Questions about odor complaints from the Chamberlain site in Waterloo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Jeff Tomich - 2/12/13: Questions about EPA's involvement in Missouri water fees. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

KTVI Channel 2, St. Louis - Bonita Cornute - 2/13/13: Questions about the Chicago Heights Boulevard Site in St. Louis County, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Radio Iowa - Dar Danielson - 2/13/13: Questions about enforcement action against Koch Nitrogen. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

The Messenger (Fort Dodge, Iowa) - 2/13/13: Questions about enforcement action against Koch Nitrogen. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Sioux City Journal - Molly Montag - 2/13/13: Questions about water issues in Macy, Neb. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (open)

KWMU Public Radio – Veronique LaCapra – 2/13/13: Questions about fire and odors at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Referred to Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

The Hill- Sen. Boxer's ideal EPA candidate seems to describe Gina McCarthy - 2/12/13 - Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairwoman Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) isn't outright naming her top choice to run EPA. But her description of a preferred candidate fits Gina McCarthy, EPA's top air

pollution regulator, very, very nicely.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282573-sen-boxers-ideal-epa-candidate-seems-to-describe-gina-mccarthy>

Associated Press - Kan. refinery to pay \$2.3 million for 2007 spill - 2/12/13 - Environmental regulators say a southeast Kansas refinery operator has agreed to pay more than \$2.3 million in penalties and cleanup costs for an oil spill during the 2007 flood in Coffeyville.

http://www.kwch.com/news/kwch-news-jlr-kan-refinery-to-pay-23-million-for-2007-spill-20130212_0,5135417.story

Also KWCH Ch. 12 Wichita, KAKE Ch. 6 Wichita, News On 6 Tulsa (Okla.)

KMUW Wichita Public Radio - Coffeyville Refinery To Pay \$2M In Penalties - 2/13/13 - An oil refinery in southeast Kansas has agreed to pay federal penalties totaling more than \$2 million as the result of a 2007 oil spill. <http://www.kmuw.org/post/coffeyville-refinery-pay-2m-penalties>

KOAM Ch. 7 Pittsburg/Joplin - Coffeyville Resources to pay \$2.3M for 2007 oil spill - 2/12/13 - Coffeyville Resources Refining and Marketing has agreed to pay more than \$2.3 million in penalties and clean-up costs from an oil spill when the city flooded in 2007.

<http://www.koamtv.com/story/21140074/coffeyville-resources-to-pay-23m-for-2007-oil-spill>

Bartlesville Radio (Okla.) - Coffeyville Resources Reaches Settlement - 1/13/13 - Environmental regulators say a southeast Kansas refinery operator has agreed to pay more than \$2.3 million in penalties and cleanup costs for an oil spill during the 2007 flood in Coffeyville.

<http://bartlesvillerradio.com/pages/news/48732013/coffeyville-resources-reaches-settlement>

Wichita Eagle - Coffeyville refinery to pay more than \$2 million for oil spill during 2007 flood -

2/12/13 - A refinery in Coffeyville has agreed to pay more than \$2 million for allowing 2,145 barrels of

crude oil and fuel to flow into the Verdigris River during a 2007 flood.

<http://www.kansas.com/2013/02/12/2673640/coffeyville-refinery-to-pay-more.html>

Electric Light & Power - Coffeyville Resources Refining and Marketing to Pay \$2,302,500 Combined Penalty and Reimbursement to Settle Violations of Clean Water Act at Coffeyville, Kansas, Facility - 2/12/13 - Coffeyville Resources Refining & Marketing (CRRM) has agreed to pay a \$556,244 civil penalty to settle alleged violations of the Clean Water Act at its facility in Coffeyville, Kansas, the Environmental Protection Agency announced today.

<http://www.elp.com/news/2013/02/13/coffeyville-resources-refining-and-marketing-to-pay-2-302-500-combined-penalty-and-reimbursement-to.html>

BNA - Kansas Refinery to Spend \$2.3 Million To Settle Oil Spill Cleanup, Water Violations - 2/13/13 - Under a proposed consent decree filed Feb. 12, a Kansas petroleum refinery has agreed to pay more than \$2.3 million to resolve alleged environmental violations stemming from a 2007 flood and oil spill.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=29667715&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0d6k1j2d1&split=0

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - McCaskill investigative power goes government-wide in duties shift - 2/13/13 - Four years ago, Sen. Claire McCaskill was chosen to head a temporary Senate Homeland Security subcommittee set up to expose abuses in government payments to outside contractors.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/political-fix/mccaskill-investigative-power-goes-government-wide-in-duties-shift/article_fa3c27a2-635f-5540-888b-bce684619996.html

Associated Press - Utilities' renewable energy commitment questioned - 2/11/13 - A coalition of Missouri environmental groups has filed complaints against three major utility companies questioning

their commitment to renewable energy requirements state voters approved in 2008.
<http://www.newstribune.com/news/2013/feb/11/utilities-renewable-energy-commitment-questioned/>

Iowa State Daily - Secretary of Energy Steven Chu discusses climate change - 2/13/12 - Unlike most of his colleagues who spent the State of the Union in Washington D.C., one cabinet member opted for visiting Iowa State instead. U.S. Secretary of Energy Dr. Steven Chu visited with members of the ISU community on Tuesday to discuss climate change and the challenges facing the Department of Energy.
http://www.iowastatedaily.com/news/article_20924ef6-757c-11e2-b4f7-0019bb2963f4.html

Greenwire - Sen. Johanns introduces bill package to rein in 'out of control' agency - 2/13/13 - Targeting an agency he said is "out of control," Sen. Mike Johanns today is introducing a package of bills that he says will "bring transparency and a dose of reality" to U.S. EPA.
<http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/02/13/3>

The Hill - Obama floats 'Energy Security Trust' in State of the Union address - 2/13/13 - President Obama proposed a program in Tuesday's State of the Union address that would divert some revenues from federal oil-and-gas drilling into research for alternative fuel technology.
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282713-obama-floats-energy-security-trust-in-state-of-the-union-address>

Washington Post (blog) - Obama stresses energy efficiency - 2/12/13 - While energy efficiency has often occupied a low-profile in the nation's climate debate, Obama gave it plenty of air time on Tuesday night. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2013/02/12/energy-efficiency-stressed/>

Wichita Eagle - Letter: Don't back off on renewable energy - 2/13/13 - Now is not the time to back away from Kansas' successful renewable-electricity standard. The standard is the main reason Kansas ranked third in the nation for new wind-power capacity installed in 2012, creating new jobs and investing \$1.5 billion in local communities.
<http://www.kansas.com/2013/02/13/2673772/letters-to-the-editor-on-renewable.html>

Wichita Eagle - Guest Opinion ~ Moti Rieber: Don't roll back renewable-energy standards - 2/12/13 - Kansas Interfaith Power and Light is one of a number of business, agricultural, energy, environmental and faith-based groups supporting the most effective state policy we have for the development of clean energy in Kansas: the renewable portfolio standard.
<http://www.kansas.com/2013/02/12/2672370/moti-rieber-dont-roll-back-renewable.html>

Wichita Eagle (blog) - Federal funding cuts will force painful debates, choices - 2/13/13 - A lot of important and effective programs at the local level have been fueled by federal dollars, and counties, cities and school districts will have to scramble to adapt.
<http://blogs.kansas.com/weblog/2013/02/federal-funding-cuts-will-force-painful-debates-choices/>

Des Moines Register - Opinion ~ Obradovich: Obama hits on issues of interest to Iowa (+video) - 2/13/12 - President Barack Obama didn't mention Iowa in last night's State of the Union message, but some of the issues he highlighted are tailor-made for the Hawkeye State.
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130213/NEWS09/302130056/Obradovich-Obama-hits-on-issues-of-interest-to-iowa>

Iowa City Press Citizen - Energy talk wins 'the hearts of Iowans' - 12/13/13 - Cary Covington, University of Iowa associate professor in political science, broke down the basic framework of such an address as a list of messages and goals tied into a narrative. For Iowans, Covington said the message likely to hit closest to home was a focus on renewable energy, including wind power.
<http://www.press-citizen.com/article/20130213/NEWS01/302130034/Energy-talk-wins-hearts-iowans->

St. Louis Business Journal - Environmental groups question utilities' renewable energy commitment - 2/12/12 - State environmental groups have filed complaints against three major utility companies questioning their commitment to renewable energy requirements Missouri voters approved in

2008. http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/morning_call/2013/02/environmental-groups-question.html

Associated Press - Utilities' renewable energy commitment questioned - 2/11/13 - The Columbia Missourian (bit.ly/WeuMCU) reported Monday that Renew Missouri and seven other environmental advocacy organizations asked the state Public Service Commission in late January to review the actions of Ameren Missouri, Empire District Electric Co. and Kansas City Power & Light.
<http://www.newstribune.com/news/2013/feb/11/utilities-renewable-energy-commitment-questioned/>

St. Louis Business Journal - U.S. Bank closes on \$2.5 million in financing for Missouri S&T geothermal project - 2/12/13 - U.S. Bank and Missouri University of Science and Technology announced the close of more than \$2.5 million of New Markets Tax Credit equity financing to help fund the construction of a geothermal heating and cooling system on the school's campus in Rolla.
<http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/news/2013/02/12/25-million-in-financing-closes-for.html>

St. Louis Beacon - City water department is not being privatized - 2/12/13 - In putting together a team of officials to launch an effort to improve water services, St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay deserves credit, not condemnation.
https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/29356/voices_private_water_dept_021113

Kansas City Business Journal - HNTB lands \$6M U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dam, levee safety contract - 2/13/13 - HNTB Corp. won a contract worth as much as \$6 million to support the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' dams and levees throughout the country.
<http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/news/2013/02/13/hntb-lands-6m-us-army-corps-of.html>

Hays Daily News - Opinion: Tim Huelskamp's town hall truthiness - 2/8/12 - Maybe Huelskamp's real motive is promoting EPA paranoia. Like in protecting fossil fuel industry profits."
<http://www.hdnews.net/opinionstory/Hooper020813>

Lincoln Journal-Star - City putting in new well to ease drought problems - 2/12/13 - The city plans to put in a new horizontal well at the Platte River wellfield this summer as part of its plans to deal with long-term drought conditions.
http://journalstar.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/city-putting-in-new-well-to-ease-drought-problems/article_e_52ca8ef8-df96-563c-b20c-e3f30b8d8129.html
Widely Reported

Lincoln Journal-Star - Nebraska lawmaker says United Nations environmental plan is threat to state - 2/13/13 - A conservative Republican lawmaker has brought the rancor over Agenda 21 -- the United Nations' push to preserve the environment -- to the Nebraska Legislature, saying the plan is a threat to the state.
http://journalstar.com/legislature/nebraska-lawmaker-says-united-nations-environmental-plan-is-threat-to/article_d7e999da-2944-595b-bac2-6fe27b1970ac.html

The Hill (blog) - In address, a pledge to fight global warming - 2/12/13 - President Obama used his State of the Union speech to offer a full-throated pledge to use executive actions to battle global warming if Congress won't pass a major climate bill.
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282697-obama-vows-executive-climate-push-but-many-specifics-r-remain-absent>

The Hill (blog) - Obama floats 'Energy Security Trust' in State of the Union address - 2/12/13 - President Obama proposed a program in Tuesday's State of the Union address that would divert some revenues from federal oil-and-gas drilling into research for alternative fuel technology.
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282713-obama-floats-energy-security-trust-in-state-of-the-union-address>

The Hill (blog) - House GOP lawmakers cool on Obama 'Energy Trust' proposal - 02/12/13 -

President Obama had barely made his way out of Statuary Hall in the Capitol before some House GOP lawmakers started shooting down his proposal for an "Energy Security Trust."

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282757-house-gop-lawmakers-cool-on-obama-energy-trust-proposal>

The Hill (blog) - Top Republican to Obama: Don't bypass Congress on climate - 2/12/13 - The Senate's number three Republican said President Obama risks a public backlash if he goes around Capitol Hill by pushing new executive-level actions on climate change.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/282755-top-republican-to-obama-dont-bypass-us-on-climate>

Midwest Energy News - Analysis: Can Congress compromise on clean energy? - 2/13/12 - The prospect for bipartisan energy policy was on the agenda last week in Washington. Former members of Congress spoke last Wednesday about restoring the "legacy of bipartisan support for renewable energy" at a policy forum.

<http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2013/02/12/analysis-can-congress-compromise-on-clean-energy/>

EnergyWire - 'There's no way to tell' how much gas the U.S. can produce (Part 1) - 2/11/13 - About 100 geologists and engineers are completing a new answer to a crucial issue for energy producers, consumers and policymakers: How much natural gas is buried a mile or more down in America's shale rock? <http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2013/02/11/archive/1>

EnergyWire - Beyond the boom, unanswered questions about the life of new wells (Part 2) - 2/13/13 - As energy companies began to sink horizontal wells into the Barnett Shale of north-central Texas a decade ago, a distinctive production curve appeared that has become a strong visual symbol in the debate about the future of the vast U.S. shale gas resources.

<http://www.eenews.net/public/energywire/2013/02/12/1>

iWatch News - EPA unaware of industry ties on cancer review panel - 2/13/13 - In September 2010, scientists at the Environmental Protection Agency came to a startling conclusion: Even a small amount of hexavalent chromium commonly found in tap water may cause cancer.

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/2013/02/13/12184/epa-unaware-industry-ties-cancer-review-panel>

Christian Science Monitor - Grid power reliability: Do we take it for granted? (sponsored content) - 2/11/13 - Coal-based electricity is one of the least expensive, most reliable means of producing electricity and it's a central part of the American energy portfolio.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2013/0211/Grid-power-reliability-Do-we-take-it-for-granted>

Dallas Business Journal - State of the Union: Randy Widup on energy's place - 2/13/12 - Randy Widup, president and CEO of Shermco Industries, says new energy technologies should be used where they make sense to lessen the nation's dependence of oil.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/dallas/blog/2013/02/state-of-the-union-randy-widup-on.html>

Dallas Business Journal - Solar Energy leader reacts to State of the Union address - 2/13/12 - Rhone Resch, of the Solar Energy Industries Association sees a robust clean-energy industry as important to America's future. "In tonight's State of the Union address, President Obama laid out a vision for the American energy economy that is in line with what SEIA is working to achieve."

<http://www.bizjournals.com/dallas/blog/2013/02/solar-energy-leader-reacts-to-state-of.html>

Dallas Business Journal - Ed Ireland: Obama's take on cleaner-burning natural gas confusing - 2/13/12 - Ed Ireland, executive director of the Barnett Shale Energy Education Council said he had concerns about what President Obama said in the State of the Union address about the need for cleaner-burning natural gas.

http://www.bizjournals.com/dallas/blog/morning_call/2013/02/ed-ireland-obamas-take-on.html

ClimateWire - Proposal would help link investors to state clean energy projects - 2/12/13 - Vice

Adm. Dennis McGinn, president of the American Council on Renewable Energy, stressed the need for government policies to attract private investments in renewable energy at a briefing last week in Washington, D.C. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/rss/2013/02/12/6>

Greenwire - Hopes for robust corn crop mount after last year's drought - 2/12/13 - With last year's withering drought still fresh on their minds, corn growers are hoping Mother Nature will give them a break in the coming growing season. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/02/12/19>

Greenwire - Rulemaking chops seen as edge for 2 inside candidates to replace Jackson - 2/12/13 - With U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson leaving the agency today, two of her lieutenants are being discussed in Washington, D.C., as leading candidates to succeed her. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/02/12/2>

E&E News PM - Obama poised to issue executive order -- sources - 2/12/13 - President Obama is expected to issue an executive order today or tomorrow aimed at bolstering cybersecurity on the electric grid and critical infrastructure, according to industry sources. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/rss/2013/02/12/1>

Politico - Opinion: On climate change, Obama delivered - 2/13/13 - Broadening his campaign against the central environmental challenge of our time, President Obama vowed Tuesday to use the powers of the presidency to respond to the growing perils of climate change. <http://www.politico.com/story/2013/02/on-climate-change-obama-delivered-87566.html>

ClimateWire - Sen. Rubio responds that 'government can't control the weather' - 2/13/13 - Sen. Marco Rubio, Florida's rising Republican counterweight to President Obama's middle-class appeal, challenged the president's climate and energy policies head-on last night, couching the White House's regulatory posture on carbon dioxide as a job-killing strategy that undermines the security of ordinary Americans. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/rss/2013/02/13/2>

Environmental Leader - How to Bolster Sustainable Remediation through Stakeholder Collaboration - 2/13/12 - US organizations are increasingly putting sustainability center stage to guide business operations. Meanwhile, many of these same organizations are grappling with legacy sites with contaminated soils and water. <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2013/02/13/how-to-bolster-sustainable-remediation-through-stakeholder-collaboration/>

Reuters - Obama gives Congress a climate change ultimatum - 2/13/13 - U.S. President Barack Obama on Tuesday gave Congress an ultimatum on climate change: craft a plan to slash greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the dangers of a warming world, or the White House will go it alone. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/13/us-obama-speech-climate-idUSBRE91C09T20130213>

Scientific American - Obama Administration Releases First-Ever Climate Adaptation Plans - 2/12/13 - With plans that incorporate efforts made by the Commerce, Agriculture, Energy, Transportation and Defense departments, among others, the administration's effort acknowledges that climate impacts are happening now and require action. <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=obama-administration-releases-first-ever-climate-adaptation-plans>

Midwest Energy News - Coal's other lives: Natural gas disrupts other key markets - 2/13/13 - Cheap natural gas is decimating demand for coal used in power plants — which accounts for the great majority of coal production. But coal is also crucial to other industries including steel, cement and even plastics. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2013/02/13/coals-other-lives-natural-gas-disrupts-other-key-markets/>

E&E News PM - Union and agency officials to talk sequester effects tomorrow - 2/12/13 - U.S. EPA

union officials will meet with top agency brass tomorrow to discuss how across-the-board cuts will affect employees if they go into effect March 1. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/rss/2013/02/12/7>

NRDC (blog) - EPA Acts to Inform the Public While Congress Idles, Benefitting the Chemical Industry - 2/11/13 - EPA deserves credit for overcoming chemical industry opposition, and, at best, resistance from the White House, and improving the chemical reporting program under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/drosenberg/epa_acts_to_inform_the_public.html

Biofuels Digest - EPA approves new blender pump for E15 fuel stations, 4-gallon rule still in effect - 2/11/13 - EPA this week outlined the conditions gas station operators need to meet to sell higher-ethanol gasoline from so-called "blender pumps" that may dispense gasoline with both 10 percent and 15 percent ethanol (E10 and E15, respectively).

<http://green.autoblog.com/2013/02/11/epa-approves-new-blender-pump-for-e15-fuel-stations/>

GigaCom - President Obama: If Congress won't act on climate change, I will - 2/13/12 - President Obama made one of his most aggressive declarations to using market-based means to fight climate change since early on in his first term.

<http://gigaom.com/2013/02/12/president-obama-if-congress-wont-act-on-climate-change-i-will/>

Union of Concerned Scientists - President Says Nation Should Heed Science, Act on Climate Change - 2/12/13 - President Obama did a powerful job connecting the need for action on climate change with the challenge of revitalizing our economy. The costs of unconstrained climate change are severe, and would create an increasing drag on the economy.

<http://www.ucsusa.org/news/commentary/president-says-heed-science-0361.html>

Earth Island Journal - Environmental Leaders Stage Civil Disobedience Protest at White House -

2/13/13 - Determined to push President Obama to translate his inspiring inauguration address rhetoric on climate change into bold policy actions, dozens of environmental leaders and their allies are right now risking arrest in front of the White House.

http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/elist/environmental_leaders_stage_civil_disobedience_protest_at_white_house/

Greenwire - Obama's energy trust doesn't include expanded drilling - 2/13/13 - President Obama's proposed energy trust aimed at weaning the U.S. auto fleet from oil won't require expanded drilling, a White House aide said today. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/2013/02/13/1>

Greenwire - Senate, House members react to president's energy and climate proposals - 2/13/13 - With President Obama prioritizing energy and climate change in the first State of the Union address of his second term, will Congress act to move legislation? Lawmakers interviewed include: Rep. Lee Terry (R-Neb.). <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/02/13/26>
Audio - <http://www.eenews.net/tv/2013/02/13/>

Greenwire - Green groups release polls showing strong support for Obama's agenda - 2/13/13 - Environmental groups released two surveys today showing significant public support for action on climate change policy. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/02/13/7>

Associated Press - Sierra Club chief arrested at Keystone XL protest - 2/13/13 - Prominent environmental leaders, including the head of the Sierra Club, have been arrested after tying themselves to the White House gate to protest the Keystone XL oil pipeline.
http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/federal-politics/sierra-club-chief-arrested-at-keystone-xl-protest/article_e0f31fed-8aa7-582c-b723-dfca95d5dc54.html

BNA - Methods for Estimating Air Emissions From Feedlots Limited, EPA Advisers Say - 2/13/13 - EPA Science Advisory Board said in a draft report that the agency's air emissions-estimating

methodologies for animal feeding operations are based on limited data and cannot be extrapolated to farms across the country.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=29662612&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6j7w7e7&split=0

BNB - Opposition to EPA Boiler Rule Possible Despite Changes to Mollify Critics, CRS Says -

2/13/13 - Opposition from Congress and legal challenges to EPA's revised air emissions standards for boilers and incinerators still are possible, despite the agency's efforts to relax the rules, the Congressional Research Service said in a report.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=29667704&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6k1b7b1&split=0

BNB - EPA Seeks Partnerships With Local Governments on Clean Water Act Rules - 2/13/13 - EPA is stressing better cooperation with local and regional governmental groups as it develops new approaches to address water pollution, Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe said Feb. 12.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=29667697&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6k1a1a1&split=0

BNB - Opposition to EPA Boiler Rule Possible Despite Changes to Mollify Critics, CRS Says -

2/13/13 - Opposition from Congress and legal challenges to EPA's revised air emissions standards for boilers and incinerators still are possible, despite the agency's efforts to relax the rules, the Congressional Research Service said in a report.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=29667704&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6k1b7b1&split=0

Inside EPA - Environmentalists Cite EPA Timeline To Halt Ozone SIP Deadline Lawsuit - 2/13/13 -

Environmentalists have voluntarily halted their lawsuit seeking to force a tight court-ordered deadline for states to submit state implementation plans (SIPs) to EPA for meeting the agency's 2008 ozone standard, citing a recent agency rulemaking that should establish a timeline for the SIP process that environmentalists find acceptable.

<http://insideepa.com/201302132424504/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/environmentalists-cite-epa-timeline-to-halt-ozone-sip-deadline-lawsuit/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Children's Health Experts 'Surprised' By Lack Of Climate Data In EPA Report - 2/11/13

- EPA's decision to scale back information on the effects of climate change on children's health in a new report has surprised children's health experts who advised EPA on the long-delayed report.

<http://insideepa.com/Risk-Policy-Report/Risk-Policy-Report-02/12/2013/childrens-health-experts-surprised-by-lack-of-climate-data-in-epa-report/menu-id-130.html>

Inside EPA - Keystone Could Test NEPA Climate Policies - 2/12/13 - The State Department's pending final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the revised plan for the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline could serve as a key test of how federal agencies will assess climate change impacts in the context of NEPA analyses.

<http://insideepa.com/201302122424352/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/keystone-could-test-nepa-climate-policies/menu-id-97.html>

Inside EPA - States Urge EPA To Address Resource Concerns Over Data Quality Guides - 2/12/13 -

EPA staff is planning to meet with state officials to try and resolve their concerns that pending EPA data quality guidelines for data collection could be overly prescriptive and impose significant financial and other resource burdens on states and others that must follow the procedures.

<http://insideepa.com/201302122424369/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/states-urge-epa-to-address-resource-concerns-over-data-quality-guides/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Disease Cluster Bill Lacks Fixes Sought By GOP - 2/12/13 - Sens. Barbara Boxer

(D-CA) and Mike Crapo (R-ID) have reintroduced a bill to grant EPA new authority to investigate disease

clusters that is identical to previous versions of the legislation.

<http://insideepa.com/201302122424374/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/disease-cluster-bill-lacks-fixes-sought-by-gop/menu-id-97.html>

Inside EPA - WRI Touts Options For EPA Rules To Curb Natural Gas Methane Emissions - 2/12/13

- The World Resources Institute (WRI) is touting options for EPA to use Clean Air Act authority for forcing cuts in the natural gas sector's emissions of the greenhouse gas (GHG) methane.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/wri-touts-options-for-epa-rules-to-curb-natural-gas-methane-emissions/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - 'Real Chance' High Court May Hear Appeal Of EPA Greenhouse Gas Rules - 2/12/13 -

Harvard law professor Richard Lazarus says there is a "real chance" the Supreme Court will accept an industry coalition's pending petition for review of an appellate court ruling that upheld EPA greenhouse gas (GHG) regulatory program.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/real-chance-high-court-may-hear-appeal-of-epa-greenhouse-gas-rules/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Approval Of Prairie Burns As 'Exceptional' Event May Set Precedent - 2/12/13 -

EPA has approved Kansas' request to classify ozone emissions from prairie burning on agricultural grasslands as an "exceptional" event that does not count toward the state's attainment of federal air standards, which a state source says could help set a precedent for future similar requests by Kansas and potentially other states.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/epa-approval-of-prairie-burns-as-exceptional-event-may-set-precedent/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Science Advisors Agree In Principle With EPA Call To Retain Lead NAAQS - 2/12/13 -

EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) members say they agree in principle with an agency staff draft proposal to retain its existing lead national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) due to data uncertainties.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/science-advisors-agree-in-principle-with-epa-call-to-retain-lead-naaqs/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Groups Back EPA's Utility MACT, Countering Claims From States, Utilities - 2/12/13 -

A nonpartisan think tank and a group of law professors are jointly rebutting industry arguments that EPA's utility air toxics rule unlawfully relied on benefits from reductions of fine particulate matter (PM2.5), rather than from mercury and other air toxics, to justify the rule.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/groups-back-epas-utility-mact-countering-claims-from-states-utilities/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Republican Senators Criticize EPA Cost-Benefit Analysis For PM NAAQS - 2/12/13 -

Eight Senate Republicans are criticizing EPA's cost-benefit analysis for its recently tightened fine particulate matter (PM2.5) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS).

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/republican-senators-criticize-epa-cost-benefit-analysis-for-pm-naaqs/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Environmentalists Cite Lawsuit Wins In Push For Stricter EPA PM2.5 Rules - 2/12/13 -

Environmentalists are citing two recent legal victories in cases challenging EPA fine particulate matter (PM2.5) rules to try and force the agency to tighten all of its policies for implementing the PM2.5 national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS).

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-02/14/2013/environmentalists-cite-lawsuit-wins-in-push-for-stricter-epa-pm25-rules/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Pending Suit May End In Second Loss For EPA's Cellulosic RFS Mandates - 2/12/13 -

A federal appeals court is moving ahead with an oil industry suit that claims EPA's 2011 renewable fuel standard (RFS) cellulosic biofuel production targets are unreasonably high.

<http://insideepa.com/201302132424482/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/pending-suit-may-end-in-second-loss>

ss-for-epas-cellulosic-rfs-mandates/menu-id-95.html

Inside EPA - EPA Signals Plan To Cut Contracts Before Staff If 'Sequester' Takes Effect - 2/12/13 - EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe is signaling that the agency will likely prioritize cuts to agency contracts to reduce spending if major budget "sequestration" cuts take effect next month.

<http://insideepa.com/201302132424483/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-signals-plan-to-cut-contracts-before-staff-if-sequester-takes-effect/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Obama Vows Clean Energy Policies Absent Hill Action On Pending GHG Bill - 2/13/13 - Senate Democrats are poised to introduce legislation establishing a "fee" on carbon emissions but one key lawmaker is suggesting that the prospects for any legislation addressing greenhouse gases (GHGs) are slim.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201302132424521/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/obama-vows-clean-energy-policies-absent-hill-action-on-pending-ghg-bill/menu-id-202.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

Koch Nitrogen Company to Pay \$380,000 Civil Penalty for Clean Air Act Violations at Facilities in Iowa and Kansas – 2/13/13 - Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

2/14/13 - Meet and greet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Col. Anthony Funkhouser, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

2/21/13 - Interagency Environmental Leadership Council Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

2/21/13 – Congressional Visit (Fischer), Omaha, Neb. Contacts: Sarah Hatch, 7199, Julia Cacho, 7071.

2/22/13 - Interview with Ken Root, WHO-TV, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

2/27/13 – Visit Kickapoo Nation, Horton, Kan. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

3/4-6/13 - Iowa State University Lecture Series – Guest Speaker, Ames, Iowa. Contacts: Josh Svaty, 7202 and Julia Cacho, 7071

3/27/13 – Missouri Water Environment Association & American Water Works Association Joint Conference, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

4/16/13 - Greater St. Louis Air & Waste Management Association meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

DRA:

2/14/13 - Meet and greet with U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Col. Anthony Funkhouser, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

2/19/13 - Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) presentation, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

4/15-17/13 - Attend Executive Management Council meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

SA:

2/19-20/13 - Attend the Heartland Conference, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

2/21/13 - Attend the Iowa Soybean Association Conference, Ames, Iowa. Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

2/22/13 - Interview with Ken Root, WHO-TV, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

3/4-6/13 - Iowa State University Lecture Series – Guest Speaker, Ames, Iowa. Contacts: Josh Svaty, 7202 and Julia Cacho, 7071

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/J

3/8/2013 - EJ Small Grant Visit, Kickapoo Environmental Office, Horton, Kan. Contact: Brendan Corazzin, 7429

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

2/19-21/13 – Meet with US Senator Deb Fischer’s Omaha and Lincoln offices. Attend state legislative session. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199

2/21/13 - Chicago Heights public meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contacts: Belinda Young, 7463 and Chris Whitley, 7394

***2/26-27** – Visit Senators Harkin and Grassley’s offices. Attend state legislative session, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199

SUPR

None

WWPD

2/11-14/13 – Site visit to Santee Sioux, Winnebago, Winnavegas, and Smith Standard Gas station, Sioux City, Iowa. Contact: Robert Bryant, 7354

2/19-21/13 - Iowa State Revolving Fund Review, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Christopher Simmons, 7237, Nancy Healy, 7713

2/26-3/1/13 - Water Quality Standards Managers and Coordinators Annual Meeting, Arlington, Va. Contacts: John DeLashmit, 7821; Ann Lavaty, 7370

2/27/13 – EPA/Missouri Department of Natural Resources Public Water System Supervision Coordination meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036, Carolyn Mitchell, 7187

3/10-14/13 – Site Association of State Drinking Water Administrators Conference/Meeting, Alexandria, Va. Contact: Mary Tietjen Mindrup, 7431

3/12-14/13 – Missouri Rural Water Association 47th Annual Meeting & Technical Conference, Branson, Mo. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

4/1-5/13 - 2013 National Training Workshop on Clean Water 303(d) Listing and Total Maximum Daily Loads, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Contact: Tabatha Adkins, 7128

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